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THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Infantry Company of the National Cadet Corps which was originally started in Palghat in 1951–52 expanded into a Battalion (with three companies) in 1954–55 with the formation of infantry companies at Mangalore and Coimbatore. Because of the increase of staff and equipment the accommodation at Palghat became insufficient. It was therefore shifted to Coimbatore where suitable accommodation was available with the Military Engineering Service.

SRI K. C. GOPALAN UNNI : Sir, the Palghat Victoria College has got a very good armoury and since the expansion of the National Cadet Corps is the policy of the Government and as there are a large number of High Schools in South Malabar, will the Government see that sufficient buildings are provided there and that the headquarters is shifted to Palghat?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : After all, the headquarters can be only at one place. We found that because of the already existing military facilites at Coimbatore, it was better to locate it at Coimbatore. There is no question of any inconvenience caused to the other centres.

Steel plant for the State

* 2466 Q.—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether this Government have received any communication from the Centre regarding the location of a steel plant in this State during 1955 in connection with the schemes to be included in the Second Five-Year Plan; and

(b) if so, whether this Government have made any representations to the Centre in the matter?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Government of India were requested to arrange for an expert study of the possibility of setting up an iron and steel industry in the Madras State and to include the scheme as a Centrally-sponsored one in the Second Five-Year Plan. They have replied that the question could be considered only after large-scale mining of lignite had been started and carbonised lignite could be made available for reduction of iron ore.

SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : கனம் நிதி அமைச்சர் அவர்கள் இரண்டாவது ஐந்தாண்டுத்திட்ட விவாதத்துக்குப் பதில் சொல்லும் பொழுது இம்மாதிரி "ஸ்டீல் பிளாண்ட்" இங்கே அமைக்க முடியப்போவதில்லை என்று சொன்னார். பின்னால் ஒரு சமயம் போகும்பொழுது நம் மாகாணத்தில் அமைப்போம் என்று சொன்னார்கள். அதே சமயத்தில் ஸ்ரீ கிருஷ்ணமாச்சாரி பேசும்பொழுது இம்மாதிரி அதிகப்படியான ஒரு "ஸ்டீல் பிளாண்ட்" சேலத்தில் ஏற்படப்போவதில்லை என்று சொன்னார்கள். மூன்றாவது பிளாண்டைப் பற்றி கவனம் செலுத்தும் போதாவது அந்தப் "பிளாண்டை" இங்கு ஏற்படுத்துவதற்கு சர்க்கார் சிபார்சு செய்வார்களா?

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : இதற்குப் பதில் முன்னமேயே சொல்லியிருக்கிறேன். அந்தப் பதிலை இப்பொழுதும் சொல்லுகிறேன். இப்பொழுது சேலத்திலே உருப்படியாக ஒரு "ஸ்டீல்" பிளாண்டை அமைப்பதற்கு நிலைமை தயாராக இல்லை.

Recovery of minimum charges for electricity

* 2467 Q.—SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the amount of minimum charges for the supply of electricity to Service Connection No. 2, Pennagar in proceedings Mettur E.S. No. L. 3-S-3/SI. B-22/119923, dated 17th August 1953 and Service No. 6, Pagavalli village distribution remitted as unrecoverable;

(b) for what length of time the minimum charges were not recovered;

(c) whether such minimum charges were statutorily recoverable every year; and

(d) the grounds on which such recoveries were remitted or written off?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI : (a) The amount of minimum charges remitted as unrecoverable in the case of service connection No. 2 of Pennagar distribution is Rs. 4,940–1–6 while that for Service Connection No. 6 of Pagavalli distribution is Rs. 1,402–10–0.

(b) About five years in respect of Service Connection No. 2 of Pennagar distribution and two years in respect of Service Connection No. 6 of Pagavalli distribution.

(c) The answer is in the affirmative.

(d) In the case of Service Connection No. 2 of Pennagar distribution, the arrears could not be recovered as the widow and legal heir of the original consumer had no movable and immovable property and as the subsequent purchaser of the rice mill cannot be legally called upon to pay the arrears due by the original consumer. However, the Electricity Department is not put to any loss, as the purchaser has since entered into a fresh agreement with the same special guarantee of Rs. 1,800 per annum as the original consumer for a period of 10 years from the date of purchase of the rice mill.

In the case of Service Connection No. 6 of Pagavalli distribution, the consumer was not able to secure licence for his rice huller in time and the Electricity Department also had to impose restrictions on supply due to low water storages in the hydel reservoirs. In this case also, the Electricity Department is not put to any loss as the same consumer has since entered into a fresh agreement for a period of ten years agreeing to pay the special guarantee originally fixed.

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN : Will the Hon. Minister at least revise the rules and see that such heavy losses do not recur to the Government frequently because the amount involved is about four to five thousand rupees?